

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Manabu DEGUCHI

Appln. No.: (Divisional of U.S. Serial
No. 09/192,303, filed Nov. 17, 1998)

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Confirmation No.: (not yet assigned)

Filed: October 1, 2001

For: PORTABLE COMMUNICATION
APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

--This is a divisional of Application No. 09/192,303 (Confirmation Number not yet
assigned) filed November 17, 1998, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

14. (New) A portable communication apparatus having a display section and a key
operation section on one side of a housing, the key operation section comprising:

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a first key section including a selection key pad which is used to select a desired information item from a plurality of information items displayed in the section, and an execution key used to executed the desired information item selected by the selection key pad; and

a second key section including a ten key pad, wherein the first key section and the second key section are provided close to each other and are disposed immediately below the display section, and

wherein the execution key has a calling function.

15. (New) The portable communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the selection key pad comprises a plurality of movement operation keys for instructing a search direction to select a desired information item from the information items displayed in the display section, and

the execution key comprises an enter key disposed at a position sandwiched by the plurality of movement operation keys, for executing the selected information item.

16. (New) The portable communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the first key section comprising the movement operation keys and the enter key is disposed with a space from the second key section.

17. (New) The portable communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the selection key pad comprises a plurality of switch contacts each corresponding to respective different directions to select a desired information item; and

the execution key comprises a depression switch contact sandwiched between the plurality of switch contacts.

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18. (New) The portable communication apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the first key section consists of a single lever-type key that allows the desired information item to be selected by inclining the single lever-type key in a desired search direction, and to be executed by depressing the single lever-type key.

19. (New) The portable communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the first key section and the second key section are provided in one housing.

20. (New) A method for selecting one of a plurality of information items using a movement key and an execution key doubling as a calling key, wherein the plurality of information items is displayed in a plurality of rows and columns on display section of a portable communication apparatus, the method comprising:

moving a highlighted portion to a desired information item of the information items by operating the movement key; and

selecting the desired information item to originate a call to a destination designated by the desired information item by operating the execution key.

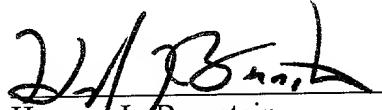
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REMARKS

Please note that newly-added claims 14-20 in the present divisional application correspond to the claims of Group III of the Restriction Requirement dated August 13, 2001 in parent application serial number 09/192,303. Group III comprises claims 31-35, 41, and 44 (claim 44 having been grouped with Group III following a determination by Examiner Chiang in a telephone conference of September 27, 2001 with Applicant's representative).

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Before the first line, the following sentence has been added:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/192,303 (Confirmation Number not yet assigned) filed November 17, 1998, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13 are canceled.

Claims 14-20 are added as new claims.